

ELEVEN BASEBALL EXPECTED TO BE THE BEST AS COLLEGE TESTS BASEBALL PLAYING THE NATION COME TODAY

WALTER JOHNSON OF THE INFIELD

By WILLIAM FREE.

I suppose in naming Eddie Collins I will be only falling in with the procession and helping to make the name of this wonderful baseball player more widely known. He is the Walter Johnson of the infield, inasmuch as he has no real rival.

His phenomenal work about second base has stopped the Washington team when they had feeling permanent home and I imagine all other spectators can make the same statement with equal truth. He is a brilliant ball player, a wonder in every department, and both leagues must doff their bonnets to this king of keyhole hitters. The game has but one Eddie Collins.

Without a single dissenting voice, little Eddie Collins, the brilliant second baseman of the Philadelphia Athletics, is chosen as the logical keyhole hitter on the All-American team.

Just as Walter Johnson, the perfect pitcher of the Nationals, was selected unanimously, so Collins, one of baseball's shining lights, has been adjudged without an equal in playing the middle sack.

Even were the competition more keen, Collins would still stand head and shoulders above the rest. Such clever players as Johnnie Evers, Otto Knebe, Larry Doyle, and Bill Eweney have not even been considered in the running. The Philadelphia star far exceeds the other middle sackers that comparisons are practically useless.

Based on Series.

In selecting Collins as the man to hold down this berth on the mythical nine, the writers who hail from National League clubs, or rather from cities where the National League is the only one represented, have been compelled to base their judgment upon the work shown by the Philadelphia in a world's series.

To many this would seem an unsatisfactory sort of test, but it must be taken into consideration that Collins has shown in three such series, one against the Cubs and twice against the Giants, and his consistent brilliancy in all three series has forced even partisan critics to justly appreciate his worth.

Not So a Year Ago.

Had a vote been taken a year ago it is hardly probable that Collins would have received a unanimous endorsement, as Larry Doyle was then traveling at top-notch speed and some National League writers might have been disposed to swing their vote to the Giants' second sacker. But while Doyle and others have fallen down since, Collins still continues to maintain his phenomenally fast gait, hitting with the very top-notchers, ranking among the first few base stealers, closing with the heavy scores, and outshining every one else as a fielder in his position.

The Philadelphia has every asset which the king of second sackers would ordinarily need, and he could lack a few of his wonderful capabilities and still outrank all the rest. The averages alone would entitle him to primary consideration, but there are some things in baseball that figures cannot chronicle, and one is Collins' ability as an inside baseball player, which gives him a value that averages cannot show.

Has True Baseball Instinct.

Possessed of the truest baseball instinct, with a wonderful pair of hands, a wonderful pair of eyes, and a foresight which enables him to see the play before it happens, he is the head of the Athletics' "board of strategy," of course, under Connie Mack.

He is one of the brainiest generals in baseball and much of the inside work of the Mackmen is the result of his clever planning. Full of ambition, pluck and daring, he is the ideal man for a second sacker, and he moves ahead of the crowd which would entitle him to be captain of this mythical team.

Is 26 Years Old.

Collins was born at Tarrytown, N. Y., about twenty-six years ago, and although he probably looked up as a local high school baseball and football hero in those parts, he first broke into the limelight

The Wonder, and Some Facts About Him

Resigned the captaincy of his college team to become a member of the Philadelphia Athletics.

Tried to get a chance with McGraw's Giants, but was refused. Connie Mack secured him without the expenditure of a dollar.

Was given a chance at second base to increase the batting strength of the Philadelphia team. He has held the position regularly from the day on which he was first tried out there.

Is regarded as the brainiest man on the Philadelphia team next to Connie Mack.

The quickest second baseman in the business handling a thrown ball. Covers more ground than any other middle-sacker in either league.

Has figured in three world's championships and has never fallen down. Is one of the few stars to uphold his reputation in this crucial test.

Next to Cobb and Walter Johnson, is regarded as the most valuable player in either big league. Without him the Mackmen would not be nearly so formidable.

Led the American League in runs scored last season, as he also did in the season of 1912.



EDDIE COLLINS

Connie decided to send him on the road with the bunch.

Tried Out With Rockies.

On this trip Mack decided to try out some of the big bunch of youngsters that were under the club roster. On account of his college connection, Collins was unwilling to play under his own name, and the few who may remember details of that trip can recall that a youngster by the name of Eddie Sullivan showed up strongly as a try-out.

On Wednesday, Collins started to lead his Columbia team out for early practice the dean of the faculty called him "upon the carpet" and charged him with being a professional. Collins tried to dodge the issue, but when confronted by a photograph of "Eddie Sullivan" sliding into the bag under Jiggs Donahue, he saw the folly of trying to pose any longer as an amateur. The result of this was that he resigned the captaincy of the team and the news was finally spread broadcast that Collins, of Columbia, had become a professional and a member of the Philadelphia Athletics.

When the college term closed and Collins had graduated, he joined the Mackmen openly, but in spite of his very promising showing of the previous fall he was not given a chance to play for many, many moons. Although he had made a great showing as a hitter, he did not come anywhere near to expectations in the outfield, where Connie Mack tried to break him in. Then Mack decided to give him a shot at infield work, and almost from the very jump Collins began to loom up as a star. Finally Dannie Murphy, the veteran second baseman, was moved out into the right garden and the young Columbia recruit given a shot at second base.

Mack did this in order to get the benefit of Collins' ability as a hitter. Murphy never got his job at second base back; he was moved out into the right garden and the young Columbia recruit given a shot at second base.

Collins is so far superior to any of his rivals on second base that discussion of possible comparison is superfluous. He is entitled to all the credit that can be tendered to him.

By HARRY F. EDWARDS.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

No second baseman in either big league can compare with the brilliant and versatile Eddie Collins. The "keyhole sacker" is all that the name implies with Collins as its guardian. In recent years only one player in my estimation has shown any ability to compare with the work of the Philadelphia infiler.

WHAT THE SCRIBES SAY.

By JACK RYDER.

Cincinnati Enquirer.

In my judgment Eddie Collins is the best all-around player in the world today, having no serious fault. He plays the keyhole position on a world's championship team wonderfully on the defense, and he is an aggressive batsman and base runner. He is the classiest member of a particularly classy infiler, and his performance during three different world's championships have been a revelation to those who get very little chance otherwise to see an American League team in action.

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Answers to Sport Queries.

How many times has Leach Cross been knocked out and what men have turned the tables on him? In 1904 Leach was put away by Jack Doyle in two rounds, and Frankie Madden in one round; in 1909 he lost by a K. O. to Fighting Dick Hyland in forty-one rounds. These are the only times he was put to sleep.

Who is the cleverer boxer, McFarland or McGilbons? L. R. Their bout on February 12 will decide that.

Has Gunboat Smith fought Rodel twice? If so, did one knock the other out? The other result in a knockout for Smith? A FAN. You are right. Their first bout went the limit, ten rounds, and their second was won by Smith in three rounds.

Kindly let me know through your pink sheet how to figure a player's batting average. CONSTANT READER. Divide number of times at bat into number of hits, using decimals.

If a referee stops a bout is one of the men credited with a knockout? G. LEWIS. Yes.

Where was Johnny Kilbane born? SUBSCRIBER. Cleveland.

Is Jim Corbett still living? If so, what is his address and when and where did he fight last? What date is the Murphy fight? Corbett is very much alive. His last fight was with Jim Jeffries at San Francisco on August 14, 1907. Jeffries winning by a knockout in ten rounds. The Murphy-Ritchie match has been postponed to April 3.

What was the date and result of the last bout between Jack Johnson and Jim Flynn? AN ARDENT READER. Jack Johnson and Jim Flynn met at Las Vegas on July 4, 1912. Johnson winning in nine rounds.

(1) Was McFarland ever beaten? (2) Please give list of light-weight and heavy-weight champions. B. R. McFarland never lost a referee's decision. For list of light-weight and heavy-weight title holders consult one of the sporting annuals.

Man on second. Batter hits to first baseman who is playing in. He fields the ball and runs across the first base line without touching the runner and throws to third, trying to make a double play. Is the batter out? LIEBSON. No. He had to be touched or the ball had to be held on first.

A is on first, B is on third. Pitcher makes a balk which entitles both runners to advance a base. Should the umpire see that both runners advance before resuming play? Yes. The ball should not be put in play until each runner has reached the base to which he is entitled.

Stout After Games.

The Sioux A. C. Junior basketball team team challenges all teams averaging 15 points. Address all challenges to P. M. Cristie, 100 E. street, southeast.

COLLINS' AMERICAN LEAGUE RECORD

Year.	G	A	R	H	TS	FC	SB	PO	A	E	PC
1909	153	572	104	195	257	346	21	67	373	406	27
1910	153	583	81	188	243	322	22	81	402	451	25
1911	132	493	92	180	232	365	18	38	348	349	24
1912	153	543	137	189	234	346	29	63	387	426	38
1913	140	534	125	184	236	345	24	54	315	448	41

Little Philadelphia, and I think it is the smartest move in his career. He is a player in Connie Mack's strategy.

Year after year Collins is up among the topnotchers in hitting, base running, and scoring averages, and his all-around work is one of the greatest assets of the great Athletics machine. His marvelous handling of the ball, his intuitive knowledge of the play, and his wonderful foresight are only a few of the attributes of this representative of the American League.

By PAUL H. SHANNON.

The Boston Post.

The choice of Eddie Collins for second base on the All-American team is absolutely unquestioned. National and American League partisans alike are only too willing to concede his undisputed claim to the title of the game's greatest middle-sacker.

Collins is to the infiler what Ty Cobb is to the outfield—a player of unequalled brilliancy and a man whose baseball instinct always leads him to do the proper thing at the proper time. He is a wonderful fielder and everything that goes into a player's equipment, as well as a most dependable man in a pinch. The game has few better base runners, and no player excels him in resourcefulness or courage. Even were he on a minor league team his superiority would be conceded.

By MARK ROTH.

New York Globe.

Eddie Collins is my choice as the greatest second baseman in either of the big leagues, and the man consequently entitled to a position on the All-American team. There is nothing that he does not do well. He is one of the greatest catchers of the possible in the game, and in every department he is a natural leader.

Ranking high among the base-runners, the batsman, and the men who score runs, he is likewise the greatest fielding second baseman, and his brilliancy, especially in the three world's championships in which he figured, convinced even the partisan National League adherents that he has no equal in the new or the old organization.

The wonderful work of Collins is made even more sensational by the marvelous smoothness with which the whole Philadelphia infield works.

By E. A. BACHELOR.

Detroit Free Press.

Collins gets the call for second base, with nobody close enough to be seen with the naked eye. As a batter, fielder, and base runner, Eddie rates very close around the ideal mark. He hasn't a weakness in any department, and plays his best under fire, as his work in the last world's series attested. On account of his position on the infiler, his knowledge of the game, and his aggressiveness, he would be logical choice as captain of the team.

By IRVING TAUBMAN.

Chicago Record-Herald.

There is no question in my mind as to the choice for leading second baseman. Collins stands without an equal in his position, "and his consistent brilliancy throughout the regular season has never detracted from his work in the world's series, where all of the great stars of baseball oftentimes fall down.

By W. J. O'CONNOR.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

One needs no alibi for picking Eddie Collins. Even those who are in the habit of watching National League teams throughout the regular season and giving such players as Johnnie Evers, Otto Knebe, and Larry Doyle their just due, must concede that the little Philadelphia man has no equal.

Even John McGraw selected Collins as his choice, and the world knows that sometimes McGraw is apt to be right. However, the Columbia student has all his shyness shut out as a trip-hammer, can run bases with any of them, is a clear-headed, resourceful fielder, and the ideal man for his position. He shines out even in the wonderful infiler that is the Philadelphia strongest asset. He is the bulwark of the Mackmen's defense and the leader of the attack.

BOXING AND WRESTLING NEWS AND COMMENT

The official announcement that boxing bouts will be permitted at Ardmore, Md., has started a parade of scoundrels toward the District, and within the next few weeks the boxing colony will be greatly enlarged.

Boxing has always been a favorite sport among local fans, but, in the past, it was denied them, and now that the fight game will be able to hold sway without interruption, some of the best boxers in the business are expected to show before local sports.

Within the next month the Ardmore Club will be greatly enlarged. The officials of the Maryland Club plan to tear out two sides of the building, and to erect at least 500 more seats. By doing this the club officials think they can get enough spectators inside the building to warrant them in bringing such boys as Johnny Dundee, Young Shugrue, Battling Levinsky, and Joe Maxwell here. When this change is accomplished, the fight fans of the District will see some real boxers in action, and this time it is not far off, according to one of the main officials of the Ardmore Club.

The Tommy Lowe-Andy Cortez bout is attracting a great deal of attention, not only here, but in Baltimore and New York. Cortez is one of the most popular of New York scrappers, and he has a big following. That Lowe is up against a tough boy is admitted by all, and the local light-weight is training hard for him by boxing in New York.

Last week Lowe had a terrific, winning one-bout and getting a draw in the other. He boxed Bert Dapp last Monday night, getting a clean win, while Eddie Schaefer made the local boy hustle a little in ten rounds.

Kid Coaches, of Wilkesbarre, Pa., would like to tackle any light-weight in this section of the country. Coaches has beaten some fairly good boys, according to his record, and might prove a troublesome one to any local light-weight.

Following is a part of Coaches' record: Danny Cullen, of Princeton, won 16 rounds; Jess Gilbert, of Williamsport, won 18 rounds; Kid Lucas, of Scranton, Pa., won 6 rounds; Happy Hayes, of New York, won 6 rounds; John Dougherty, of Philadelphia, won 6 rounds; Charles Smith, of Philadelphia, won 6 rounds; Happy Hayes, of New York, won 16 rounds; Wild Bill Tracy, of Chicago, won 6 rounds; Kid Gleason, of Philadelphia, won 6 rounds; Tommy Rowan, of Brooklyn, won 6 rounds; Joe Burke, of Wilkesbarre, won 6 rounds; Roney, knock-out, 1 round; One-round Hogan, knock-out, 1 round; Kid Fuhon, knock-out, 5 rounds.

Johnny Kilbane, the feather-weight champion, plans to grab a big bag of money out of his little battles this year, for he has been signed up for four more fights by his manager, Jimmy Dunn. On Monday night he will take on Eddie Moy, of Allentown, Pa., in a return battle of six rounds at the Olympia A. A. of Philadelphia; February 7, he boxes Kid Thomas, at the National A. C. of Philadelphia; February 11, he takes Tommy Bresnahan, of Omaha, for ten rounds, at the Ryan A. G. of Syracuse, N. Y., and on February 15 he will go against Jack White, of Chicago, for ten rounds, in Milwaukee.

Now comes another challenge. Louis Montana, the Italian wrestler, wants to "ex John Kilbane before the Ardmore Club." Following is a part of Montana's record: Kilbane has beaten him on the mat, but

after entering the Washington Irving Free School at Tarrytown, N. Y., he was a second sacker of three world's championship teams, was supposed to groom himself for Columbia College and ultimately for the practice of the law, but he was such a clever prep school product that he soon was given a chance to play summer baseball. Collins was a pitcher then, with a curve that never amounted to much, but he was one of the reasons why the school who comb the high school teams in these times passed him up as lacking in any evidence of future league prowess.

Made Columbia Eleven.

In course of time Collins entered Columbia College and at once went out with the candidate for the ball team in the spring. He had made good as a football player, grabbing off the position of quarterback back on the Columbia eleven. This made it easier perhaps for him to qualify as a ball player, but he very quickly showed that he had the ability and in his freshman year made his debut as a shortstop on the Columbia nine.

For two seasons he made no attempt to play with any semi-professional organization, but so many other college players were making hay while the sun shone that Collins at last decided to haul down some of the easy money himself. In his junior year he received an offer to play with the Plattsburg, N. Y., team, and while performing with his segregation he often played against Larry Denny, of the Red Sox, and other college players who were like him ultimately to enter the big league ranks.

Team Broke Up.

At Plattsburg Collins remained for about six weeks, then the team disbanded and the players went wherever they could secure engagements, the Columbia man finally locating at Rockport, Conn., where he played during the remainder of the summer.

It was at Rockport that the major league scouts first caught sight of him. One Saturday afternoon in September Collins was approached after the game by a sun-burned, wiry individual whom he had noticed sitting in the grand stand since the team had broken up. This individual was obliged to do any dickering with club owners or managers, as Collins was only a semi-professional player and therefore not the right to go wherever he pleased. He found that the man was a scout for the Philadelphia Athletics club, and when he was offered a contract to play with the Connie Mack aggregation he could hardly believe that he heard aright.

Had Baseball Ambitions.

Although destined ostensibly for the law, Collins had previously entertained many league ambitions, and before joining the Rockport team had made a trip to New York City, where he tried to induce Johnnie McGraw to give him a chance to play for the Giants. But McGraw had troubles of his own just then and could not afford to bother with the young collegian. He has probably regretted his rejection of Collins' services many times since.

Collins left Rockport and went to Philadelphia, but he did not make his debut with the Mackmen just then, as he was still ostensibly an amateur, and had been previously elected to the captaincy of the Columbia College team. The young recruit therefore sat upon the bench and watched the current series between the Athletics and the Washington team. On the last Western trip of the Mackmen

NATIONAL GUARDS TO HOLD MAT TOURNAY

Big Amateur Athletic Federation Wrestling Championships to Be Held February 16 and 18.

The amateur wrestling championship tournament under the auspices of the National Guard Athletic Association will be held in the Militiamen's gymnasium on February 16 and 18.

The preliminaries will be staged on Monday night with the final being held on Wednesday. The entries will close on Monday night at 7 o'clock, and as Capt. C. Eugene Edwards, of the National Guards, has already received ten entries he expects this tournament to be the largest that has ever been held in the District for the local amateur mat artists.

Seven classes are on the list, with one special 125-pound class, making eight numbers on the program. These bouts are to be the toughest and most exciting, but the athletes are required to be registered in the local Amateur Athletic Federation of the District. The winners of the different bouts in the finals will be presented with a gold National Guard Athletic Association championship medal.

A team trophy to the winners of the most points is also to be offered, providing that there is entries in each event from two or more clubs.

SOCCER FOOTBALL RESULTS IN ENGLAND

London, Jan. 31.—The second round in the English Association football tournament was fatal to the chances of the London teams, all being beaten. Tottenham fell a victim to the City of Manchester, while the Champions were surprised in the second half at Brighton.

Millwall's victory over Bradford City was the outstanding feature of the round. After they had scored in the second half the Lions more than held their own, and thus they enter the third round after two brilliant victories over two of the first league clubs.

Results of the second round, for the Challenge Cup: 1. Crystal Palace, 0; Manchester City, 2; Tottenham, 1; Sheffield United, 3; Bradford, 1; Sunderland, 2; Plymouth, 1; Blackburn, 3; Burn, 0; Queens Park, 2; Swansea, 1; Birmingham, 1; Huddersfield, 6; Liverpool, 3; Gillingham, 0; Mill Wall, 1; Bradford City, 0; Brighton, 3; Clapton, 1; Aston Villa, 3; Exeter, 1; West Bromwich, 2; Leeds, 0; Wolverhampton, 1; Sheffield Wednesday, 1; Derby, 3; Derby, 3; Preston, 1; Glossop, 0; Bolton, 4; Swindon, 2.

Rugby results: Roslyn Park, 21 points; London Hospital, 4; Blackheath, 25; Oxford, 4; Old Merchant, 2; York, 5; London Irish, 3; Harlequins, 18; Richmond, 11; Bournemouth, 5; Northampton, 0; Cambridge, 1; United Services, 13; Guss Hospital, 3; Oxford, 2; Swansea, 15; Leicester, 0; London Welsh, 3; Coventry, 0; Durham, 3; Northumberland, 3; Newport, 10; Gloucester, 0.

Kansas City Players Report.

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 31.—The Kansas City Federal League players will report here March 1. George Hovall, manager, has been ordered to report here next month to start building up the club.

Stock Signs Giants' Contract.

New York, Jan. 31.—Milton Stock, the speedy little infiler, who has been with the Giants for the last several years, off and on, and who was farmed out last season to the Mobile club, of the Southern Association, to smooth off the rough edges, has been signed for three years. Stock's original contract was for only one year, but when the club offered him the chance of signing for an additional two years he lost no time in accepting.

Down the Alleys

Y. M. C. A. DUCKPIN LEAGUE.

Club	W	L	T	W	L	T
Knickerbocker	10	11	11	10	11	11
Brooklyn	10	11	11	10	11	11
Manhattan	10	11	11	10	11	11
Knickerbocker	10	11	11	10	11	11
Brooklyn	10	11	11	10	11	11
Manhattan	10	11	11	10	11	11
Knickerbocker	10	11	11	10	11	11
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